



M O V I N G T H E  
**AMERICAN  
ECONOMY**

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**Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Reached a Monthly Record High in  
April 2008  
(State Rankings in Tables 5 and 7)**

Trade using surface transportation between the United States and its North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners Canada and Mexico was 14.3 percent higher in April 2008 than in April 2007, reaching \$74.3 billion, the highest monthly level ever recorded, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (*Table 1*).

BTS, a part of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), reported that the value of North American surface trade in April topped the previous monthly high of \$74.2 billion in October 2007 by 0.1 percent.

The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico rose 5.0 percent in April from March (*Table 2*). Month-to-month changes can be affected by seasonal variations and other factors.

Surface transportation consists largely of freight movements by truck, rail and pipeline. About 88 percent of U.S. trade by value with Canada and Mexico moves on land.

The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico in April was up 58.7 percent compared to April 2003, and up 91.8 percent compared to April 1998, a period of 10 years (*Table 3*). Imports in April were up 106.0 percent compared to April 1998, while exports were up 75.8 percent.

Data for exports to Canada by pipeline in March 2008 remained unavailable at the time of this release.

**U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Canada**

U.S.–Canada surface transportation trade totaled \$48.9 billion in April, up 15.4 percent compared to April 2007 (*Table 4*). The value of imports carried by truck was about 1 percent higher in April 2008 than April 2007, while the value of exports carried by truck was 13.1 percent higher.

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Michigan led all states in surface trade with Canada in April with \$6.4 billion (*Table 5*).

### U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Mexico

U.S.–Mexico surface transportation trade totaled \$25.5 billion in April, up 12.2 percent compared to April 2007 (*Table 6*). The value of imports carried by truck was 11.8 percent higher in April 2008 than April 2007 while the value of exports carried by truck was 10.9 percent higher.

Texas led all states in surface trade with Mexico in April with \$8.0 billion (*Table 7*).

The TransBorder Freight Data are a unique subset of official U.S. foreign trade statistics released by the U.S. Census Bureau. New data are tabulated monthly and historical data are not adjusted for inflation. April TransBorder numbers include data received by BTS as of June 10.

The news release and summary tables can be found at [www.bts.gov](http://www.bts.gov). More information on TransBorder Freight Data and data from previous months are posted on the BTS website at <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>. BTS will release May TransBorder numbers on July 31.

**Table 1. Value of Monthly U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Canada and Mexico**  
(millions of dollars)

Month	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change 2006-2007	Percent Change 2007-2008
January	61,189	60,649	<b>65,160</b>	-0.9	<b>7.4</b>
February	59,804	59,667	<b>69,406</b>	-0.2	<b>16.3</b>
March	68,213	69,768	<b>70,787</b>	2.3	<b>1.5</b>
April	61,742	65,015	<b>74,317</b>	5.3	<b>14.3</b>
May	65,994	69,423		5.2	
June	66,898	69,526		3.9	
July	55,939	61,823		10.5	
August	66,354	69,158		4.2	
September	63,295	66,771		5.5	
October	66,846	74,249		11.1	
November	64,805	70,352		8.6	
December	59,049	60,902		3.1	
4-month total	250,947	255,098	<b>279,670</b>	1.7	<b>9.6</b>
Annual	760,127	797,303		4.9	

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Note: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding. Canada pipeline export data are currently not available for March 2008.

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**Table 2. U.S. Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico by Mode of Transportation (millions of dollars)**

Mode		April 2007	March 2008	April 2008	Percent Change Mar. 2008 – Apr. 2008	Percent Change April 2007-2008
All Surface Modes	Imports	36,912	40,089	42,226	5.3	14.4
	Exports	28,103	30,698	32,090	4.5	14.2
	Total	65,015	70,787	74,317	5.0	14.3
Truck	Imports	23,492	23,835	24,859	4.3	5.8
	Exports	21,790	23,353	24,482	4.8	12.4
Rail	Imports	7,551	8,065	8,063	-0.0	6.8
	Exports	3,775	4,281	4,447	3.9	17.8
Pipeline	Imports	4,418	6,657	7,655	15.0	73.3
	Exports	410	NA	600	NA	46.4

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Notes: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding. The value of trade for all surface modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail and pipeline modes, it also includes shipments made by mail, foreign trade zones, other and unknown modes of transportation. For additional detail refer to the "Data Fields" Section of the TransBorder web page: [http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR\\_DataFields.html](http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html).

Canada pipeline export data are currently not available for March 2008.

**Table 3. April 2008 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Compared with April of Prior Years**

Compared to April in...	Percent Change		Total Surface Trade
	Imports	Exports	
2007	14.4	14.2	14.3
2006	20.2	20.6	20.4
2005	27.2	27.9	27.5
2004	38.9	40.8	39.7
2003	59.1	58.0	58.7
2002	57.8	60.2	58.8
2001	58.4	59.4	58.8
2000	63.1	53.0	58.6
1999	89.0	74.1	82.3
1998	106.0	75.8	91.8

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,

<http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Canada pipeline export data are currently not available for March 2008.

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**Table 4. U.S. Surface Trade with Canada by Mode of Transportation**  
(millions of dollars)

Mode		April 2007	March 2008	April 2008	Percent Change Mar. 2008 – Apr. 2008	Percent Change April 2007-2008
All Surface Modes	Imports	23,776	26,465	27,636	4.4	16.2
	Exports	18,546	20,750	21,222	2.3	14.4
	Total	42,322	47,216	48,859	3.5	15.4
Truck	Imports	12,761	12,729	12,858	1.0	0.8
	Exports	14,307	15,645	16,185	3.4	13.1
Rail	Imports	5,436	5,854	5,791	-1.1	6.5
	Exports	2,188	2,606	2,394	-8.2	9.4
Pipeline	Imports	4,408	6,642	7,640	15.0	73.3
	Exports	361	NA	529	NA	46.5

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Note: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

The value of trade for all surface modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail and pipeline modes, it also includes shipments made by mail, foreign trade zones, other and unknown modes of transportation. For additional detail refer to the "Data Fields" Section of the TransBorder web page:

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Canada pipeline export data are currently not available for March 2008.

**Table 5. Top 10 States Trading with Canada**  
**by Surface Modes of Transportation**  
Ranked by April 2008 Surface Trade Value  
(millions of dollars)

Rank	State	April 2008
1	Michigan	6,401
2	Illinois	4,630
3	New York	3,509
4	Ohio	3,065
5	California	2,740
6	Texas	2,291
7	Washington	2,107
8	Pennsylvania	1,858
9	Minnesota	1,834
10	Indiana	1,450

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,

<http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Canada pipeline export data are currently not available for March 2008.

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**Table 6. U.S. Surface Trade with Mexico by Mode of Transportation**  
(millions of dollars)

Mode		April 2007	March 2008	April 2008	Percent Change Mar. 2008 – Apr. 2008	Percent Change April 2007-2008
All Surface Modes	Imports	13,136	13,624	14,590	7.1	11.1
	Exports	9,557	9,948	10,868	9.3	13.7
	Total	22,693	23,571	25,458	8.0	12.2
Truck	Imports	10,730	11,106	12,001	8.1	11.8
	Exports	7,482	7,707	8,298	7.7	10.9
Rail	Imports	2,115	2,211	2,272	2.8	7.4
	Exports	1,587	1,675	2,054	22.6	29.4
Pipeline	Imports	10	15	15	-1.5	52.1
	Exports	49	85	71	-16.2	45.9

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Note: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding. The value of trade for all surface modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail and pipeline modes, it also includes shipments made by mail, foreign trade zones, other and unknown modes of transportation.

For additional detail refer to the “Data Fields” Section of the TransBorder web page:

[http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR\\_DataFields.html](http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html).

**Table 7. Top 10 States Trading with Mexico**  
**by Surface Modes of Transportation**  
Ranked by April 2008 Surface Trade Value  
(millions of dollars)

Rank	State	April 2008
1	Texas	8,047
2	California	4,142
3	Michigan	2,705
4	Arizona	1,001
5	Illinois	913
6	Ohio	684
7	Tennessee	504
8	North Carolina	482
9	Georgia	447
10	Pennsylvania	435

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,

<http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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